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erect, the branches mostly in pairs, 2 to 3 inches long, becoming divergent, below sheathed in the upper leaf, sparingly flower-bearing above the middle, branches and pedicle slightly scabrous; spikelets, including the awns, 9-10 inches long; glumes 4 to 5 lines long, nearly equal, narrow, 1-nerved, acuminate, slightly scabrous on the keel, rather shorter than the flowering-glume, which is 5 to 6 lines long, including the short pubescent stipe, narrow, smooth, the awns nearly equal, 5 to 6 lines long, erect.

Collected in Southern Arizona in 1869 by Dr. E. Palmer.\*

### A New Ramalina.

By EDWARD TUCKERMAN.

*RAMALINA CRINITA*, *sp. nov.*—Thallus caespitose, rigid, compressed, sub-dichotomous, linear-laciniate, at length much dilated, greenish-glaucous, the divisions smooth, interruptedly white-striate, and becoming lacunose, attenuate at the summits, and clothed at the margins more or less thickly with strong, solitary or clustered, finally branched, black fibrils; apothecia middling-sized to large (3-10<sup>mm</sup>. in width), subterminal and lateral, subpodicellate, varying as to smoothness as the thallus, the margins blackened; spores oblong-ellipsoid,  $1\frac{5}{8}$ - $2\frac{0}{8}$  mic.

On low shrubs of *Euphorbia misera*, in company with *Roccella leucophæa*, *Physcia erinacea*, etc., on the coast, San Diego, California, C. R. Orcutt, in herb. Sprague; found also by the same collector, at Todos los Santos, Lower California; spermogones not observed. In the only other known species comparable with this, inasmuch as the slender divisions pass above into, and are beset with black fibrils (*R. melanothrix*, Laur., known only from the Cape of Good Hope, Drège!) the spermogones are described as black. The tufts of our plant vary from one and a half to three inches in height in the specimens seen as yet, and the width of the divisions from 2<sup>mm</sup>. to more than an inch. The general aspect of the lichen suggests the stock of *R. calicaris*.

**Notes on the Adirondacks.**—The recent action of the Legislature having brought the great North Wilderness into prominent notice, some general notes made on a recent hurried journey through a portion of that region may not be devoid of interest. Commencing at North Creek, some sixty miles by rail from Saratoga, a stage journey of twenty miles, followed by a buck-board progression—one could hardly call it a journey—of ten miles further through a wooded and broken country, brings us to Blue Mountain Lake. This sheet of water, with its irregular and deeply indented shores and numerous islands, is perhaps the most picturesque of the almost numberless lakes which constitute so prominent a feature of the whole region. The vegetation of

\* I have a letter from Mr. Suksdorf, of Washington Territory, in which it is stated that Mr. Howell is entitled to the credit of the discovery of *Agrostis humilis* (described in the February number of the BULLETIN), although he (Mr. S.) also collected on the same mountain—*Paddo* being the Indian name for Mt. Adams.—G. V.

the locality is varied, apparently representing a large number of species common to the Northern and Eastern States; but its whole aspect indicates a severe climate and sterile soil. A notable feature at the time of our visit, August 15th, was the wonderful size and abundance of the fruit of many species. Everywhere on lower ground was *Cornus Canadensis*, with bunches of bright red berries, making the ground in places fairly brilliant. Many of the plants were also in bloom, but the depauperate appearance of the flowers showed them to be plainly out of season. *Clintonia borealis*, though less abundant, was even more striking. Here and there it occupied the ground in patches, to the exclusion of nearly all other plants, while every scape bore several, often a half dozen, berries usually a half inch or more in diameter. The color was of the intensest cobalt-blue, which to my knowledge is not anywhere equalled in fruit or flower. Other species also remarkably conspicuous for their fruitfulness were *Streptopus roseus*, *Medeola Virginica* and *Trillium erythrocarpum*. A number of species, which, further South are found only in swamps, were seen flourishing here on steep and comparatively dry hill-sides. Among undershrubs, *Viburnum lantanoides* was very abundant, and, on lower ground was everywhere laden with great broad cymes of beautiful coral fruits. Far up the mountain-side the plants were still abundant, but bore no fruit.

The ascent of Blue Mountain, instructive in the opportunity it affords for the study of mountain vegetation, offers a perhaps still greater reward in the way of magnificent scenery. The mountain is about 4,000 feet in height, and stands comparatively isolated in a vast amphitheatre of hills and low mountains. A forest stretches in every direction, apparently unbroken except by the lakes and ponds of various sizes, of which about twenty are in sight. In general aspect the forests appear to be made up largely of conifers, but a closer inspection shows that such is not the case. Indeed, nowhere in the Adirondack region did I encounter any exclusively coniferous forests, or any where the conifers were not equalled in number by broad-leaved species. The grand feature of the view from the summit of Blue Mountain, however, is the group of mountains of which Mt. Marcy is the centre, lying some thirty miles to the east. Few mountain views, I apprehend, are grander than this.

On the few acres of cleared land in the vicinity of Blue Mountain Lake it was interesting to note the promptness with which nature sets about clothing the open spaces with vegetation. Left to itself for a single year, a clearing, especially if it has been burned over, yields a luxuriant crop of the two fire-weeds, *Epilobium angustifolium* and *Erechthites hieracifolia*, the former largely in excess. In clearings two or three years old, as also along the sides of roads, *Prunus Pennsylvanica* begins to appear in great abundance. Many of the plants were fairly vigorous, while a large number was seriously affected by the black-knot. So far as these clearings are intended to give space for cultivated fields, they appear altogether unpromising, judging by the few efforts at gardening here and there visible. Whatever else may be in store for the wilderness as a whole, it is safe to

predict that no considerable areas will ever be devoted to agricultural purposes.

A canoe journey through Blue Mountain, Raquette and Long Lakes and connecting streams and ponds, is an event of rare interest. The vegetation of the shores is everywhere sufficiently attractive, but one's interest and admiration culminate at various points along Raquette River. Nowhere have I ever seen more beautiful natural planting. Very often the commingling of the vegetation is such as to produce the most striking effects, which linger long afterwards as pleasant pictures in the memory. At certain especially noteworthy spots the principal species on the river banks appeared to be *Acer dasycarpum*, *Pyrus Americana*, *Abies balsamea* and *Lobelia cardinalis*. The maples, of rather small size and bushy form, were in greatest numbers. Mingled with these were shrubby forms of mountain ash with branches appearing like fronds, and producing an airy and graceful effect; and the back-ground was filled in with rather sombre but beautiful specimens of balsams, while in front of all and close to the water's edge were great masses of luxuriant cardinal flowers laden with a profusion of bloom.

Of the numerous aquatic species encountered, none was more attractive than the water-lilies. The patches met with here and there presented marked differences in the size and color of the flowers, the size and general appearance of the leaf, and in the whole aspect of the plant. The forms in the Raquette system of lakes and streams answered best to the descriptions of *Nymphaea odorata*, while after crossing the divide at Stony Creek and entering the Saranac system all the plants observed answered more nearly to *N. tuberosa*. The whole appearance of the Nymphaeas was such as to suggest the need of a modification of the description of the species as now given, and perhaps the recognition of several well marked varieties.

The wise action of the Legislature in refusing to sell any more of the nine hundred square miles still owned by the State in the Adirondacks ought to be supplemented by the purchase of perhaps an equal area, or at least by the passage of a law securing its control, so that the further removal of timber may be prohibited, or at all events properly regulated. Perhaps the greatest damage to the natural beauty of the region has thus far resulted from the damming up of streams and the outlets of lakes. The object is sometimes to facilitate the getting out of timber, at others to deepen the water so as to permit the use of small passenger steamers, which are unhappily becoming quite numerous. In either case the result is the permanent flooding of the banks and the death of all timber on the flooded areas. Even some parts of the beautiful Raquette have been already doomed. The devastation from this source ought also to receive legislative attention, and be as far as possible prohibited. In general, it seems to me that the vast importance of the Adirondack forests to the State, and the irreparable injury, even from the utilitarian standpoint alone, which their destruction would bring, has never been overstated, or even fully stated.

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